Textiles *at MSJ Sixth Form*

Textiles will allow you to explore your own ideas and experiment with a wide variety of techniques and media, which are directly related to the manipulation of fabric.

This can include, print based media, digital processes, fashion illustration and production, experimental stitch based media, embroidery, woven techniques and three-dimensional construction. The department has superb resources, studios and specialist teachers, giving you a stimulating and rewarding insight into the creative process. The course develops cultural and artistic understanding, alongside creative, research and decision making skills. The hands-on approach to learning and an emphasis on experimentation, allows students to develop their own style. At A Level you can work in more depth to explore the ideas that really interest you.

At both AS and A Level there will be trips to galleries and exhibitions, as well as European tours organised to inspire your work. Life Drawing classes form an intrinsic part of both courses and workshops with professional textile artists and practitioners are organised regularly.

TO PURSUE THE A LEVEL COURSE SUCCESSFULLY, PUPILS IDEALLY NEED A MINIMUM OF:

GCSE Art 6

WHAT DOES THE COURSE INVOLVE?

AS – This course consists of an initial skills based period, during which time students are introduced to a wide range of materials and processes. An important focus is on recording through using drawing, stitch and other appropriate visual forms. Students will develop the ability to select, edit and progress their ideas, using appropriate visual language and terminology. In January the Externally Set Task will provide students with a number of themes. You will pick one option to explore independently, with guidance from your teacher. During the preparatory period you will research, plan and develop ideas for your own response, which will be realised in a 10 hour controlled period of time. This unit carries 100% of the total marks.

A Level – This course consists of two units:

Personal investigation – A portfolio of practical work showing your personal response to either a starting point, brief, scenario or stimulus and a related written study of a minimum of 1000 words.

Externally Set Task – released in February, providing students with a number of themes. You will pick one option to explore independently, with guidance from your teacher. During the preparatory period you will research, plan and develop ideas for your own response, which will be realised in a 15 hour controlled period of time.

IS IT THE RIGHT COURSE FOR ME?

What skills will I need?

In order to study Textiles, natural artistic ability is important but so equally is real enthusiasm for the world of fashion and textiles. A relish for practical skills and a desire to express yourself in a creative and imaginative way, is essential.

WITH WHICH OTHER SUBJECTS DOES IT WORK BEST?

Textiles sits comfortably with both Mathematics and the Sciences, particularly with regard to garment construction and pattern cutting.

It fits well with English and Drama, also appealing to the creative nature within us. Design elements within the course work well with skills developed within Product Design. Geography and History and RE provide good partnerships, developing an awareness of cultural diversity and the dramatic effects of events on contemporary fashion.

WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE CAREER PATHWAYS?

Textiles is beneficial to a wide variety of Art based and non- Art based careers, in which dexterity and a visual awareness are important. These can include Fashion Design and Fashion Marketing, Animation, Graphic Design, Interior Design, Jewellery Design, Film and Television, Product Design, Museum and Gallery work, Photography, Teaching, Web Design, Illustration, Theatre and Costume Design, Three Dimensional Design, History of Costume, Arts Administration and Management.

HEAD OF SUBJECT

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EXAM BOARD

OCR

HOW IS IT ASSESSED?

AO1: Develop ideas through sustained and focused investigations informed by contextual and other sources, demonstrating analytical and critical understanding.

AO2: Explore and select appropriate resources, media, materials, techniques and processes, reviewing and refining ideas as work develops.

AO3: Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions, reflecting critically on work and progress.

AO4: Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and makes connections between visual and other elements.